

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY BERN

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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AEMBASSY DACCA 150

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSULMUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USIA WASHDC

USMISSION USUN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16030

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, EG, FR, GW, IN, UR, US, XF, XG, SZ, BG, JA

SUBJECT: SOVIET CLASSIFIED PRESS SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 6

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

1. SUMMARY:

-- SOVIET MEDIA CARRY NO FURTHER REPORTING OR COMMENTARY ON THE CHANGES IN WASHINGTON; A MAJOR IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY DESCRIBES SOVIET-U.S. BILATERAL RELATIONS AS "NORMALIZED" BUT UNDERLINES MOSCOW'S CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE;

-- TWO MAJOR ITEMS ON SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS, LOOKING TOWARD PRESIDENT SCHEEL'S ARRIVAL ON MONDAY, STRESS THE ADVANTAGES TO THE WEST GERMANS OF THEIR DEALINGS WITH THE EAST;

-- THE NUMBER OF ANTI-CAPITALIST ITEMS CONTINUES HIGH, WHILE THE FRONT PAGES ARE TAKEN UP BY FURTHER BUILD-UP TOWARD NOV 7;

-- PEKING IS CRITICIZED IN REPLAYS OF PRESS ITEMS FROM JAPAN AND INDIA;

-- FOREIGN INTERVENTIONS IN ANGOLA IS AGAIN ALLEGED AND DENOUNCED;

-- ON BANGLADESH, PRAVDA REPORTS THE KILLING OF THE FOUR FORMER MUJIB OFFICIALS BUT OFFERS NO COMMENTARY YET. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS TODAY CARRIES NO FOLLOW-UP REPORTS OR COMMENTS ON THE CABINET-LEVEL CHANGES IN WASHINGTON. A BRIEF TASS ITEM, CARRIED ONLY IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, REPORTS THE REGULAR SALT SESSION IN GENEVA ON NOV. 5.

3. IZVESTIYA'S AUTHORITATIVE POLITICAL OBSERVER ALEKSANDR BOVIN CONTRIBUTES TO THAT PAPER'S CURRENT SERIES ON "THE PEACE PROGRAM IN ACTION" WITH A LENGTHY ARTICLE ON PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. HE CONTENDS THAT THE ORIGINAL LENINIST CONCEPT HAS BEEN PUT INTO PRACTICE AND STRENGTHENED BY THE

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CHANGING CORRELATION OF FORCES, WHICH SEES THE "SOCIALIST" WORLD NOW SPEAKING TO THE CAPITALIST WORLD "AS AN EQUAL". LISTING THE SUCCESSES OF THE SOVIET "PEACE OFFENSIVE" OF THE LAST FIVE YEARS, HE SAYS THAT U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS "ARE NORMALIZED"--UNUSUAL TERMINOLOGY FOR THE SOVIET MEDIA, WHICH USUALLY STRESSES THAT NORMALIZATION IS AN ONGOING PROCESS--AND REFERS TO A SLOWING OF THE STRATEGIC ARMS RACE, TO THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE QUALITATIVE

CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT IN THAT AREA, TO AN EASING OF TENSION IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AND TO CSCE AS FURTHER BENEFICIAL RESULTS. BOVIN SAYS THAT THE PROBLEM AREAS REMAINING ARE THOSE OF DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC, SCI-TECH, AND CULTURAL COOPERATION. A LACK OF TRUST BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND THE ABSENCE OF "THE HABIT" AND A "SETTLED SYSTEM" OF TRADE COMPLICATE SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS. BOVIN'S MOST ELOQUENT RHETORIC, IS DEVOTED TO THE FAMILIAR ARGUMENT THAT "PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE DOES NOT SERVE AS A MEANS TO ARTIFICIALLY FREEZE THE EXISTING STATE OF THINGS. IT REGULATES NOT THE BEHAVIOR OF CLASSES OR SOCIAL GROUPS IN STATES, BUT RATHER THE BEHAVIOR OF STATES IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS." HE CONTINUES THAT STATES, OF COURSE, "CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO EVENTS BEYOND THEIR BORDERS", AND WILL SUPPORT "SOCIAL MOVEMENTS" OF THEIR CHOOSING. HE CONCLUDES THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE "HISTORICAL CONFRONTATION" OF THE TWO SYSTEMS "SHOULD BE DECIDED NOT ON THE BORDERS BETWEEN STATES, BUT RATHER WITHIN THESE BORDERS." (COMMENT: BOVIN'S WRITING IS A CUT ABOVE THAT OF THE USUAL PROPAGANDA HACKS, AS IS HIS SELF-CONFIDENCE. HE MAKES THE UNUSUAL ADMISSION, THROUGH ATTRIBUTING IT TO SOMEONE ELSE, THAT THE "SOCIALIST" SYSTEM SUFFERS FROM SHORTAGES IN SOME "WARES FOR THE POPULACE" AND IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING A "TRADITION OF INDUSTRIAL CULTURE". PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHEN DISCUSSING COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES HE CONTENTS THAT "GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE A TOPICAL QUESTION"--AN UNUSUALLY DIRECT STATEMENT ON THIS TRADITIONALLY SOMEWHAT TOUCHY ISSUE. END COMMENT.)

4. WEST GERMANY. IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA CARRY COMMENTARIES ON SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS IMPLICITLY LOOKING TOWARD SCHEEL'S ARRIVAL ON MONDAYK. THE ITEMS NOTE THE PROGRESS IN RELATIONS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND EMPHASIZE THE BENEFITS,
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ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC, TO THE FRG OF ITS WINDOWS TO THE EAST. THESE, SAYS PRAVDA, ALSO STRENGTHEN THE FRG IN ITS DEALINGS WITH THE WEST. PRAVDA APPLAUDS THE PARTIES OF THE GOVERNING COALITION, BUT SAYS THAT THEY ARE NOT FIGHTING HARD ENOUGH AGAINST THE OPPONENETS OF DETENTE (STRAUSS, ETC.). PRAVDA ALSO PRAISES THE CONTRIBUTION OF "DEMOCRATIC" AND "PROGRESSIVE" FORCES IN WEST GERMANY FOR SUPPORTING CSCE AND DETENTE, NAMING DKP CHAIRMAN MIES IN THIS CATEGORY.

5. ANTI-CAPITALISM. IZVESTIYA CARRIES A WHOLE PAGE OF ITEMS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON PROBLEMS IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD. THE ITEMS COME FROM THE U.S., JAPAN, BRITAIN, WEST GERMANY, ITALY, FRANCE AND CANADA. THE THEMES ARE UNEMPLOYMENT, POOR HOUSING, MONPOLY EXPLOITATION, TEACHERS' STRIKES AND LABOR DISCONTENT. BY CONTRAST, LIFE IN THE

"SOCIALIST" WORLD, AND THE USSR IN PARTICULAR, IS DESCRIBED IN TYPICALLY GLOWING TERMS AS THE PRESS DEVOTES INCREASING SPACE TO TOMORROW'S 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION. ALL NEWSPAPERS CARRY LEAD ITEMS ON THE ANNIVERSARY AND THE OVERWHELMING SIGNIFICANCE OF "OCTOBER" TO THE WORLD. FOREIGN POLICY IS A SMALL PART OF THIS COVERAGE, BUT THE ITEMS ROUTINELY REAFFIRM MOSCOW'S DEVOTION "TO PEACE AND SOCIAL PROGRESS ON EARTH."

6. CHINA-JAPAN, INDIA. A TOKYO-DATELINED TASS ITEM, CARRIED IN PRAVDA AND KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, CITES A "YOMIURI" ARTICLE CHARGING THAT PEKING SEEKS TO IMPOSE ITS ANTI-SOVIET TERMS IN THE TREATY TALKS WITH JAPAN. THE ARTICLE, REPORTEDLY QUOTING FROM A JAPANESE MFA STUDY OF THE TALKS OF DATE, SAYS THAT PEKING'S POSITION IS BASED ON "NOTHING OTHER THAN SUPERPOWER HEGEMONISM," AND RAISES SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR JAPAN. (COMMENT: SUCH ITEMS OBVIOUSLY FIND A WARM RECEPTION HERE--WE HAVE ALSO HEARD IT ON RADIO--BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THEY MAY ENCOURAGE A MORE FORTHCOMING SOVIET POLICY TOWARD JAPAN. END COMMENT.) PRAVDA CONTINUES TO COVER THE SINO-INDIAN BORDER INCIDENT FROM THE INDIAN SIDE, REPLAYING COMMENTS FROM THE "TIMES OF INDIA", THE "PATRIOT" AND THE "NATIONAL HERALD." THE LATTER, SAYS PRAVDA, CARRIED A LONG PTI ANALYSIS ON THE HISTORY OF SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS WHICH RECALLED THAT CHINA "CONTINUES TO OCCUPY 14,000 SQUARE KILOMETERS OF INDIA'S CONFIDENTIAL

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TERRITORY."

7. ANGOLA. PRAVDA REPORTS (WITHOUT SOURCING) THAT THE MPLA IS STRUGGLING AGAINST THE FORCES OF "FOREIGN INTERVENTION," AND SPECIFICALLY NAMES SOUTH AFRICA AND ZAIRE AS CULPRITS. CHINESE MILITARY INSTRUCTORS, SAYS PRAVDA, HAVE NOW MOVED INTO ANGOLA AND THE CHINESE ARE ALLEGEDLY PROVIDING "ARMS AND MILITARY TECHNOLOGY" TO THE "INTERVENTIONISTS." PRAVDA ALSO REPORTS A MASS MEETING IN LISBON EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE MPLA AS THE DATE FOR ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE (NOV 11) APPROACHES.

8. BANGLADESH. PRAVDA AND KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CARRY A TASS ITEM FROM TOKYO ON DEVELOPMENTS IN DACCA, INCLUDING THE DISCOVERY OF THE FOUR MURDERED EX-OFFICIALS OF MUJIB'S GOVERNMENT AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A JUDICIAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT. (COMMENT: SOVIET MEDIA HAVE REFRAINED FROM COMMENTING THUS FAR, AND SEEM TO BE RUNNING MORE THAN A DAY LATE IN COVERING THE EVENTS. END COMMENT.) MATLOCK

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